

Task Force on Creativity Arts and Cultural Education
Work Group 2 High Priority Schools
May 7 Meeting Notes
Transcribed From Flip Charts

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What Can We Learn From This Research?

General:

- ! Take care, claims are something made from data that can not be substantiated
- Research can be valuable even if it does not come from studies on H.P. Schools

Consider Challenges & Impact of Poverty:

- Understanding the background of students is critical to success; "What is a background of poverty?"
- Learning about diverse learning styles and the culture of poverty is important to improving achievement.
- Poverty Impacts learning > 85% of H.P. schools are in poverty areas.
- Improvement takes time, initiatives must be sustained over time.

Keep the Focus on Students:

- Keeps the focus on the students, we can not change the community or family... we can influence the student.
- Using arts to create peer groups for students which affects student achievement
- Artists can communicate to students concepts and ideas that link races. Minority artists not only link to minority students but to all students
- Art builds a sense of community, especially important to students in dysfunctional families and communities.

A Powerful Teaching Method:

- Artists in residence programs work!
- Art integration maximizes the time teachers have for teaching.
- Arts can assist with building concepts.
- Arts assist students with visualization
- Need a collection of Best Practices.

Professional Development:

- Study leadership, professional learning community
- Resources are needed to assist artists with training and grant writing.
- Use National Staff Development Council Research on Effective Professional Development.
- Systemic and sustained efforts must be made by coordination by the state.
- Increasing time on math and reading does not necessarily mean improved achievement.
- Teachers must see themselves as using a powerful teaching method when they use the arts.
- Working with artists is not only helpful to the students but is an in service training opportunity for the teachers.

Funding:

- Funding is tied to political decisions.
- Funding is tied to data collection and improving student achievement.
- Arts organizations need to pool resources, hire a common lobbyist,
- COMMUNICATE.
- Dr. Rousher: for MORE ARTS RELATED DATA Lincoln Center
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